

JANUARY CLIMATE CALENDAR

With Weather & Safety Facts

Huntsville, Alabama



Prepared by:
National Weather Service
Huntsville, AL

River flooding is a major concern each spring to people who live in low-lying areas near rivers and streams.

Flood Warnings are issued by the National Weather Service for selected river forecast points when water levels are forecast to significantly impact life and property.

The NWS monitors river conditions 24 hours a day using our Hydrologic Forecast System. You can see river levels in your area through our Advanced Hydrologic Prediction System (AHPS) on our website: <http://www.srh.weather.gov/hun/>



Major flooding on the Tennessee River near Lacey's Spring caused significant damage in May 2003. (Photo by Kurt Weber, NWS HUN)



The Paint Rock River spilled out of its banks in February 2003, flooding Alabama State Highway 65 north of Paint Rock. Although this driver made it through safely, you should never try to drive through water of unknown depth covering a road! (Photo by Jason Elliott, NWS HUN)

Safety tips for river flooding:

If you encounter water over a roadway, Turn Around, Don't Drown!

When barricades are posted closing a road due to flooding, do not drive past the barrier. If authorities believe it's unsafe, it probably is!

Do not allow children to play in rain-swollen drainage ditches. The water current may be dangerous.

If river flooding is forecast to occur, do not wait. Move to higher ground!

River flooding is not exclusive...flash flooding can occur at the same time!

January 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
January 2003: Temperatures were well below normal with precipitation well below normal. Snow was observed on seven different days, but only totaled 0.4 inches for the month. This ranked as the 3rd driest January since 1894. <div> <div>45.0 25.8 35.4 1.45 0.4</div> <div>-3.9 -4.9 -4.4 -4.07 -0.9</div> </div>				1 79(1952) 7(1977) 49 31 0.18 T	2 68(1997) 2(1928) 49 31 0.18 T	3 72(2000) 5(1928) 49 31 0.18 T
4 75(1950) -5(1919) 49 31 0.18 T	5 70(1955) 7(1959) 49 31 0.18 T	6 72(1946) 10(1959) 49 31 0.18 T	7 71(1989) 5(1912) 49 31 0.18 T	8 71(1946) 2(1942) 48 31 0.18 T	9 73(1939) 3(1970) 48 31 0.18 T	10 77(1949) 0(1982) 48 31 0.18 T
11 75(1949) -2(1982) 48 30 0.18 T	12 71(1928) -7(1918) 48 30 0.18 T	13 76(1972) -8(1918) 48 30 0.18 T	14 71(1911) 9(1963) 48 30 0.18 T	15 75(1947) 5(1927) 48 30 0.18 T	16 76(1943) 2(1982) 48 30 0.18 T	17 76(1943) -4(1982) 48 30 0.18 T
18 74(1929) 3(1977) 49 30 0.18 T	19 72(1982) -2(1940) 49 30 0.18 0.1	20 73(1933) -9(1985) 49 31 0.18 0.1	21 73(1937) -11(1985) 49 31 0.18 0.1	22 78(1933) 5(1985) 49 31 0.18 0.1	23 74(2002) -1(1963) 49 31 0.18 0.1	24 75(1972) -4(1963) 49 31 0.18 0.1
25 77(1950) 4(1940) 49 31 0.18 0.1	26 75(1950) -4(1940) 50 31 0.17 0.1	27 74(1944) -7(1940) 50 31 0.17 0.1	28 73(1934) -7(1940) 50 31 0.17 0.1	29 74(1911) -3(1966) 50 31 0.17 0.1	30 77(2002) -11(1966) 50 31 0.17 0.1	31 76(2002) -5(1936) 50 31 0.17 0.1

Guide to Calendar: Record and normal values are given for each day above.

Red values indicate high temperatures; **Blue** values indicate low temperatures; **Green** values indicate precipitation; **Black** values indicate snowfall.

<u>Coldest January</u>	<u>Warmest January</u>	<u>Coldest Jan. Highs</u>	<u>Warmest Jan. Lows</u>	<u>Wettest January</u>	<u>Driest January</u>	<u>Snowiest January</u>
26.2 (1940)	54.9 (1950)	11 (1/10/1962)	64 (1/25/1950)	10.92 (1982)	1.28 (1914)	9.6 (1988)
28.7 (1977)	52.5 (1937)	14 (1/30/1966)	64 (1/21/1937)	10.50 (1974)	1.32 (1986)	8.2 (1936)
30.5 (1978)	49.4 (1933)	15 (1/19/1940)	62 (1/29/2002)	9.29 (1999)	1.45 (2003)	8.0 (1918)
31.7 (1985)	49.1 (1952)	15 (1/02/1928)	62 (1/07/1998)	9.11 (1954)	1.71 (1970)	8.0 (1966)
32.0 (1918)	49.0 (1974)	16 (1/11/1962)	62 (1/01/1966)	9.08 (1950)	1.76 (1961)	5.8 (1919)

LOCAL WEATHER FACTS FOR JANUARY

1-Jan	The high temperature reached 79 degrees in Huntsville, not only a record for the date, but a record for all of January.	1952
2-Jan	A major cold snap began with four to five inches of snow across the Tennessee Valley. By the 5th, Valley Head would have six inches on the ground.	1919
3-Jan	A January deluge dropped three to five inches of rain across the area. This was the major contributor to 1982 being the wettest January on record.	1982
4-Jan	North Alabama is in the heart of a significant January coldsnap, with highs struggling to reach 20 degrees. Ironically, January 1999 is one of Huntsville's wettest and warmer January months on record.	1999
5-Jan	The area begins to pull out of one of a major cold period, finally not dropping below 10 degrees for the first time for the year in most areas.	1928
6-Jan	The Tennessee Valley sees one of its biggest snowstorms. Valley Head recorded 10 inches in three days; Huntsville tallied over 9 inches.	1988
7-Jan	Heavy rains of three inches or more affect the area. Low temperatures for the day were only around 60 degrees.	1998
8-Jan	Huntsville tallies five inches of snow. But the snow isn't accompanied by very cold weather. Although three inches accumulates, it doesn't last long.	1926
9-Jan	The low temperatures dropped into the single numbers three separate times on this date in the 1970s, the last in 1979.	1979
10-Jan	Following a heavy snowstorm, temperatures bottomed out below zero throughout the area. Muscle Shoals reached a high of only 9 degrees.	1962
11-Jan	A F3 tornado left a 35-mile path of damage in Cullman, Blount, Marshall, and DeKalb Counties. Three died, and 20 were injured -- 13 in one home in Collinsville.	1885
12-Jan	A second day of heavy rain dropped over an inch of rainfall across much of the area.	1989
13-Jan	High temperatures remain below freezing for the third consecutive day. Lows would stay below 20 for seven out of eight days.	1997
14-Jan	The high temperature reaches 65 degrees. This would be the only day in the month above 60.	1983
15-Jan	North Alabama is in the midst of a major cold snap. Highs on this day reached only into the 20s. Snow would fall on the subsequent two days.	1994
16-Jan	Huntsville still reported a trace of snow on the ground, ten days after a major snowstorm hit the area.	1988
17-Jan	Several locations across the Tennessee Valley report hail, up to the size of golfballs, in a series of storms that lasted into the morning of the 18th. Snow had fallen just 11 days earlier in a major cold snap.	1999
18-Jan	A devastating F3 tornado moved from Grove Oak to Fyffe in DeKalb County. Four died, and eight more were injured in the deadliest January tornado in North Alabama.	1936
19-Jan	Nearly 200 structures were damaged or destroyed in and near the city of Cullman when an F3 tornado touched down. Extensive damage occurred through the heart of the city. Miraculously, no one was killed, and none of the 35 injuries were life-threatening.	1988
20-Jan	Several inches of snow fall, followed by a bitter cold snap.	1985
21-Jan	Huntsville ties its all time record lowest temperature: -11 degrees.	1985
22-Jan	The second round of hailstorms in less than a week affects the area as temperatures top 70 degrees.	1999
23-Jan	Significant precipitation followed a major cold front two days earlier. Huntsville tallied 5.5 inches of snow as highs dropped from the upper 60s on the 21st to the mid 20s.	1935
24-Jan	Over 20 reports of hail are received across the Tennessee Valley, including golfball sized hail at Jones Chapel in Cullman County, and in Guntersville.	1997
25-Jan	Temperatures reach into the upper 70s, something that became a staple during the warmest January on record in the Tennessee Valley.	1950
26-Jan	Golfball size hail was reported in rural DeKalb County.	1973
27-Jan	Hail up to the size of golfballs was reported in three separate locations in Northwest Alabama. The largest hail was near Trimble in Cullman County.	1995
28-Jan	Quarter to golfball size hail was reported from South Huntsville to Hazel Green in Madison County with thunderstorms. Highs skyrocketed to near 70 degrees.	1995
29-Jan	Moulton recorded 11 inches of snow, and Muscle Shoals 9 inches. But the highs that day were in the 50s!	1966
30-Jan	Russellville dropped to a frigid -24 degrees with seven inches of snow on the ground. Belle Mina reported -19, and Athens -17.	1966
31-Jan	High temperatures reach well into the 70s for the third consecutive day. The warm spell would be broken the following day.	2002